IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Twice Amended) A method for bidding by vendors of customized goods or services, comprising steps of:

receiving a vendor record, said vendor record having vendor identifier data representing a vendor, and a vendor capability data identifying a capability of said vendor to provide a customized good or service for each of a plurality of vendors in a pool of vendors;

receiving a job data from a buyer, said job data having a buyer identifier data, and a job descriptor data representing a custom job for which said buyer wishes a price quote or bid;

automatically comparing said vendor records to said job data;

automatically identifying at least one group from the pool of vendors as qualified for receiving an invitation for bid, based on said comparison;

receiving bid response data from at least one of said vendors which received said solicitation, said bid response data identifying each of the vendors from which it was received and a bid price; and

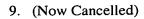
transmitting a solicitation to only selected members from the pool of vendors;

outputting to said buyer said bid response data.

Please cancel Claims 2 through 4 and Claims 6 through 24.

- 2. (Now Cancelled)
- 3. (Now Cancelled)
- 4. (Now Cancelled)
- 5. (Previously Cancelled)
- 6. (Now Cancelled)
- 7. (Now Cancelled)
- 8. (Now Cancelled)

1/2/03 1/2/03



- 10. (Now Cancelled)
- 11. (Now Cancelled)
- 12. (Now Cancelled)
- 13. (Now Cancelled)
- 14. (Now Cancelled)
- 15. (Now Cancelled)
- 16. (Now Cancelled)
- 17. (Now Cancelled)
- 18. (Now Cancelled)
- 19. (Now Cancelled)
- 20. (Now Cancelled)
- 21. (Now Cancelled)
- 22. (Now Cancelled)
- 23. (Now Cancelled)
- 24. (Now Cancelled)